

Yesterday, 12 of New Jersey's 13 House members opposed legislation that would open up much of the U.S. East Coast to environmentally and economically dangerous offshore oil drilling. Lawmakers were led in their opposition by Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ), the ranking member of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, which has jurisdiction over domestic drilling policy. According to a Gannett report this morning:

During debate on the House floor, Rep. Rush Holt led Democratic opposition to the drilling-expansion bill and to two others earlier in the week that aimed to speed the leasing and permitting process for new drilling.

"Time and again over the past week, I've referred to the majority's trio of offshore drilling bills as 'amnesia acts,' "Holt said. "(Supporters) willfully forget the lessons derived -- at great cost in lives and livelihoods -- from the Deepwater Horizon spill last summer.

"And with these amnesia acts, the majority offers false promises to Americans who are struggling to make ends meet as gas prices continue to rise."

[Click here](#) to read the full story at the Asbury Park Press' website.